to send project proposals for the new schemes i.e. Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits, and Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development for the year 2002-03.

(c) Does not arise.

Utilization of funds by States

†2216. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of assistance provided by Government to the States to raise the level of ground water level during the last three years and to what extent success has been achieved State-wise as a result thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that certain States have not taken any action in this regard even after getting the allotment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to ensure the full utilization of the allotment for the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d). The Ministry of Water Resources do not have any scheme under which financial grant is provided to the State Governments to raise the level of ground water. However, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources had implemented demonstrative rain water harvesting and recharge projects in the country under its Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water on "pilot basis" during the IX Five Year Plan at a cost of Rs. 23.48 crore. Under this scheme, a total of number of 174 projects were approved for implementation in 27 States/Union Territories. The expenditure made on these recharge projects was Rs. 22.97 crore in last three years. These recharge projects have contributed to increase in the quantity of ground water with efficient use of runofff avoiding evaporation losses.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.